

REMARKS

This amendment is being submitted preliminary to any examination in the above-referenced patent application. Applicant has amended claims 1, 3 and 18-22 and has added new claim 35 to further clarify aspects of the invention. No new matter has been added. Support for the claim amendments and the new claim can be found, for example, at page 4 (lines 5-7), page 8 (lines 3-6), page 9 (lines 10-11, 14-16) and page 10 (lines 1-5, 15-19) of the specification as originally filed.

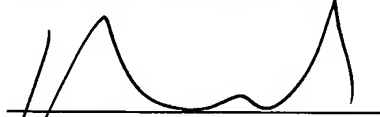
If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would be of value in expediting the prosecution of the present application, Applicant invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned counsel to arrange for such a conference.

It is believed that the application is in a condition for examination; and Applicants respectfully request Examiner to pass the application on to allowance.

A check in the amount of \$9.00 for an additional claim is enclosed. In the event any additional fees are due, the Examiner is authorized to charge Applicant's attorney's deposit account no. 03-2030.

Respectfully submitted,

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